



Congressional Update



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Arizona Game and Fish Commission

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Congressional Update is published by the Arizona Game and Fish Department Legislative Affairs throughout the year. We provide a summary of Congressional legislation and national news that pertains to the Department.

National News:

- 146 Members of Congress signed the "Dear Colleague" letter circulated by congressmen Thompson (D-CA), Saxton (R-NJ), Kind (D-WI) and Hayes (R-NC) seeking \$85 million in Fiscal Year 2008 for the **State Wildlife Grants Program**, our nation's core program for preventing wildlife from becoming endangered in every state. It's not too late for House Reps. to sign on: A "second chance" letter is being circulated by Congressman Engel (D-NY) with a 3/29 deadline.
- **Excise taxes** paid by the nation's hunters, shooters, archers, anglers and boaters will provide \$416.9 million for state fish and wildlife agencies this year, according to preliminary reports from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The funds collected on hunting and fishing equipment are distributed for conservation and education programs.
- **Hunting as a Management Tool in National Parks** - In 2006, CSF encouraged Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne to consider a policy shift that would allow hunters to manage overpopulated game species on National Park Service lands. Recently, two members of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus introduced legislation to open the door for elk hunting in some national parks.

Congressional Legislation

House Bills: **5**
Senate Bills: **7**
Total: **12**

S.86

Title: A bill to designate segments of Fossil Creek, a tributary to the Verde River in the State of Arizona, as wild and scenic rivers.

Sponsor: Sen McCain, John [AZ] (introduced 1/4/2007) **Cosponsors** (1) J. Kyle

Related Bills: H.R.199

Latest Major Action: 1/4/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S.272

Title: A bill to amend Public Law 87-383 to reauthorize appropriations to promote the conservation of migratory waterfowl and to offset or prevent the serious loss of important wetland and other waterfowl habitat essential to the preservation of migratory waterfowl, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Coleman, Norm [MN] (introduced 1/11/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Latest Major Action: 1/11/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

S.300

Title: A bill to authorize appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program in the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Kyl, Jon [AZ] (introduced 1/16/2007) **Cosponsors** (3)

Latest Major Action: 1/16/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S.408

Title: A bill to recognize the heritage of hunting and provide opportunities for continued hunting on Federal public land.

Sponsor: Sen Chambliss, Saxby [GA] (introduced 1/26/2007) **Cosponsors** (6)

Latest Major Action: 1/26/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. 658

Title: A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to improve the process for listing, recovery planning, and delisting, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Thomas, Craig [WY] (introduced 2/16/2007) **Cosponsors** (5)

Latest Major Action: 2/16/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

S. 700

Title: A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to provide a tax credit to individuals who enter into agreements to protect the habitats of endangered and threatened species, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Crapo, Mike [ID] (introduced 2/28/2007) **Cosponsors** (16)

Related Bills: H.R.1422

Latest Major Action: 2/28/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S. 725

Title: A bill to amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to reauthorize and improve that Act.

Sponsor: Sen Levin, Carl [MI] (introduced 3/1/2007) **Cosponsors** (2)

Latest Major Action: 3/1/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R.199

Title: To designate segments of Fossil Creek, a tributary to the Verde River in the State of Arizona, as wild and scenic rivers.

Sponsor: Rep Renzi, Rick [AZ-1] (introduced 1/4/2007) **Cosponsors** (3) Franks, Grijalva, Pastor

Related Bills: S.86

Latest Major Action: 2/7/2007 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.

H.R.620

Title: To accelerate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States by establishing a market-driven system of greenhouse gas tradeable allowances that will limit greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, reduce dependence upon foreign oil, and ensure benefits to consumers from the trading in such allowances, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Olver, John W. [MA-1] (introduced 1/22/2007) **Cosponsors** (112)

Related Bills: S.280, S.317

Latest Major Action: 2/7/2007 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans.

H.R.658

Title: To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements to protect natural resources of units of the National Park System through collaborative efforts on land inside and outside of units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Porter, Jon C. [NV-3] (introduced 1/24/2007) **Cosponsors** (None)

Related Bills: S.241

Latest Major Action: 3/20/2007 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R.764

Title: To expand the boundary of Saguaro National Park, to study additional land for future adjustments to the boundary of the Park, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Grijalva, Raul M. [AZ-7] (introduced 1/31/2007) **Cosponsors** (1) G, Giffords

Latest Major Action: 2/7/2007 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.

H.R.767

Title: To protect, conserve, and restore native fish, wildlife, and their natural habitats at national wildlife refuges through cooperative, incentive-based grants to control, mitigate, and eradicate harmful nonnative species, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Kind, Ron [WI-3] (introduced 1/31/2007) **Cosponsors** (14)

Latest Major Action: 2/13/2007 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans.

The Congressional Update is available
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If you have questions relating to legislation, please contact AGFD Legislative Liaison
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